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## WASHINGTON SENTINEL.

VOL. 3.

TRI-WEEKLY.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1856.

WOOD GAS .- CAUTION. BE it known that I, the subscriber obtained letters patent in December, 1851, for an apparatus for the destructive distillation of wood, and the making therefrom of tar or pitch at wood, and the making therefrom of tar or pitch at pleasure, and gas; and that in the judgment of competent persons the invention of an appartus recently patented by W. D. Porter cannot be used by him or any other person without infringing my said patent. And, further, that what is patented by said Porter rightfully belongs to me, as I expect to prove ere long before the United States Patent Office; and, further, that the use of said Porter's invention involves also a process.

said Porter's invention involves also a process which I am now claiming before the United States Patent Office, and which has been adjudged to be patentable to the first inventor thereof, and which said W. D. Porter has formally disclaimed, as appears upon the public records of said office, of which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also a copy of his abitime.

which an official copy is nereto annexed, and also a copy of his claims.

In the National Intelligencer of the 25th instant Mr. Porter announces that he has secured by patent the "exclusive right to making gas from wood," and threatens prosecution to all parties infringing his patent. I ask how this statement comports with the fact of my patent of December, comports with the fact of my patent of December, 1851, and how far the threat can intimidate under such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based upon a movable perforated diaphragm, and was so understood by the Patent Office, as it appears from the records of the Patent Office that his from the records of the Patent Office that his claim was at first refused as interfering with a prior patent to Robert Foulis, of Canada, for an equivalent contrivance. This claim, as given below, and in which the perforated diaphragm is the saving clause, is what Mr. Porter calls securing the "exclusive right to making gas from wood." The statement carries absurdity on its front, and is a libel on the good sense of the Patent Office if such a claim or right had been granted, it would footbid average goal, bill and charcoal manufactory forbid every coal-kiln and charcoal manufactory

The following copies of correspondence and extracts from the records of the Patent Office will show the true state of the ease:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE, ONITES STATES PATEST OFFICE,
August 25, 1854.
Sin . In reply to your letter of this date, asking
if any patent has been granted to W. D. Porter,
dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or to any other person or persons, securing to him or them "the exclusive right of making gas from wood," and whether any such claim was made by W. D. Porter, under his application for a patent, which letters patent were issued bearing the above date, you are informed that W. D. Porter's claims are believed to be c nined to his apparatus. tus; and, further, this office is not aware that a patent has been granted heretofore for the exclusive right of making gas from wood. It would, however, be unjustifiable to expect me to make an extended investigation to answer your re-

st.
I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. Mason, Commissioner of Patents. W. P. McConaell, Esq., Care of Prof. C. G. Page, Washington, D. C.

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greting:
This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the files of this office of an extract from a paper filed in the matter of the application of W. D. Porter for letters patent, in accordance with which application letters patent were issued to the said W. D. Porter on the 22d day of August, ln testimony whereof, I. Charles Mason, Com-

missioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed
[L. s.] this 25th day of August, in the year of our
Lord one thousand eight hundred and fiftyfour, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth. C. Mason.

Copy of disclaimer of W. D. Porter in his application for "an improved still for making wood gas," filed August 5, 1854. Letters patent issued

August 22, 1854. I do not claim as my invention and discovery the improvements in making gas from wood, viz: subjecting the products of destructive distillation therefrom to a high degree of heat, substantially as has been described and for the purposes set forth in the specification of W. P. McConnell."

The United States Patent Office-To all persons to whom these presents shall come greeting:
This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy om the records of this office of an extract from the specification of W. D. Porter's patent, issued in the twenty second day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

In testimony whereof, I, Charles Mason, Commissioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto

ire to secure by letters patent is:
"The construction of a gas apparatus or still,

The truth of the abeve may be ascertained from WM. P. McCONNELL, By his attorney CHAS. G. PAGE.

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The above books ally.

## PROSPECTUS

"WASHINGTON SENTINEL." PROPOSE to publish in the city of Washington, in September, a political newspaper, under the name of the WASHINGTON SENTINEL. In doing so, it is proper I should make known

In doing so, it is proper I should make known the principles it will maintain, and the policy it will advocate.

It will support cordially and carnestly the principles of the Democratic party of the United States it does not propose to be the organ of any Depart ment of the Government, except in so far as an independent maintenance of the doctrines of that

party may represent its opinions and express its views. It will not be ambitious to commend itself to the people by a blind flattery of their rulers. It will seek public support by the bold avowal of the sentiments which are common to the genuine Pemocracy of the Union, and by the condemnation of all such as may conflict with them, from whatever quarter they may come. It will seek to be (and it will endeavor to deserve the title) the organ of the Democratic party of the United States.

ruth of that great party, that the States formed the Union between them by the ratification of the Constitution as a compact; by which, also, they created the Federal Government, and delegated to it, as their common agent, the powers expressly specified in it, with an explicit reservation of all others to the States, or to their separate governments. The exercise of any powers beyond these thus delegated, is, therefore, an usurpation of the reserved authority of the States by the agent of their own creation. heir own creation.

their own creation.

The SENTINEL will uphold and defend the Union upon the basis of the rights of the States—under the Constitution—and thus by sedulously guarding the latter, it will the more effectually strengthen and perpetuate the former.

With regard to the exercise of the powers of the Federal Government, the SENTINEL will take as the i rinciples of its action, that Congress shall exercis no power which has not been delegated by the C. ustitution, according to a strict and fair in-terpret tion of its language and spirit; and that it shall no seek to attain indirectly an object through the exet is end constitutional powers, for the direct attainment of which it has no delegation of power. In other words, all powers exercised must be clearly gratted, and all granted powers must be used for no surpose, except such as is clearly intended by the Constitution.

In respect to the internal administration of the Government, the SENTINEL will sustain the settled policy of the Democratic party. It will labor to inculcate this cardinal doctrine of Democratic in ternal policy:—that this Government will best promote the freedom and prosperity of the people of the States, by being less ambitious to exercise power, and more auxious to preserve liberty; and by leaving to the individual States the management of all their domestic concerns—while it contents itself with quantities the good description. tents itself with guarding the confederacy from external violence, and directing the foreign policy of the country to the promotion of the common interests, and defence of the common rights, and

nonor of the States composing it. The Sentinel will advocate such a progressive and correspond with the expanding interests of the country. That policy should be energetic and decided; but should temper firmness with liberality, and make its highest ends consist with the strictest principles of justice. The real interests of the country, upon each occasion demanding attention will be its guide in the course the SENTINEL wil

The national policy of the world in this age is essentially aggressive. In the growing sense of weakness of some of the nations of the Old World, and the ambitious restlessness of others, a com

Our settled determination to repel interference from abroad with our domestic concerns, will prompt us to avoid it in the affairs of other coun tries, unless by their foreign or colonial policy our peace should be threatened, our security endan gered, or our interests invaded. For when the selfish interests of other nations prompt a foreign or colonial policy which infringes upon our rights, and places in the pathway of our commerce a dangerous and unfriendly rival, such a policy must

Our foreign policy should, indeed, be defensive but to be properly defensive, it must sometimes be apparently aggressive. Our administration should seal of the Patent of the Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth.

C. Mason.

Extract from Specification of W. D. Perter on and its desting than the letters patent were issued August 22, 1854.

The political, deeply concerning American trace and the configuration of the united States the seventy-ninth.

C. Mason.

Extract from Specification of W. D. Perter on a greater stake in the world and its desting, than every other people. We occupy the best portion of a continent, with an neighbors but a colony, and a worn-out, anarchical despotism. We are the awithout colonial described to the continent of the conti vigilant, watchful, and energetic. The world a worn-out, anarchical despotism. We are the olay people whose own land, without colonial deconsisting of a metallic or other cylinder B, the cones E and D, disphram plate C, and exit pipe P, substantially as described in the foregoing specification, and shown in the accompanyors of the control of the contr resources more vast—our facilities and capacity for internal and foreign commerce more extended than those of any other people living under one explored and exhaustless in its yet hidden wealth is at our feet. European trade seeks the great East through avenues which are at our doors, or must be made through our own limits. Europe, Asia, Africa, and the isles of the sea, lying all around us, look to us as the rising power, through the agency of whose example, and ever widening and extending, though peaceful influences, the bless-ings of liberty, civilization, and religion, are destined to triumph over the barbarism and supersti-tion of the millions of the world. And shall such a people refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and act upon the high mission to which it is called? A mission so full of hope, though so laden with responsibility, which, if properly directed, must make our confederacy the harbinger of peace to he world, as well as the peaceful arbiter of its

destiny. The SENTINEL will, therefore, advocate a bold and earnest foreign policy, such as the condition of the country demands; but it will advocate it under the flag of the country—nowhere else. Its foreign policy must be consistent with the spotless honor and unimpeachable good faith of the country. To be respectable at home and abroad, and to be great in the eyes of the world, it must ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that is wrong. It must be liberal and magnanimous to the rights of others, and firm and immoveable in insisting on its own. It must, in fine, be true to

its own interests, rights, and honor—it cannot then be false to those of other nations. Such, then, is the chart by which we shall be guided. Independent and free, we shall endeavor to be honest and truthful. The true friends of democratic principles we shall cordially support and defend. Its enemies in the field or in ambush

we shall oppose, and on all proper occasions de, To our future brethren of the press we extend the hand of friendly greeting. The Sentinel is the rival of no press of its own party-the personal enemy of none of the other.

The present Democratic Administration has our test wishes for its success in the establishment of the great principles upon which it came into power and in its honest labors to attain such an end i will find the SENTINEL its friend and coadjutor.

ATER YEARS, by the Author of "the Old House by the River."

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PROPOSED PERIODICAL.

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success of principles.

It will be progressive, yet sternly opposed to the reckless spirit of innovation so rife in the country-aiming to elevate and advance, not depiess; to reform and improve, not to destroy; sacredly adhering to the true intent of our great

republican theory, and laboring to advance it to its fullest development.

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PROSPECTUS OF THE UNITED STATES TIMES,

Weekly Newspaper to be published in Washington City. The undersigned, expecting soon to retire from the position he has for some time held as Superintendent of the United States Census, intends to The above work is intended principally for schools of the higher classes. Just received and for sale at the Bookstore of R. FARNHAM, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 11th street. Aug 21. publication in the City of Washington of a weekly

newspaper with the above title. The material for this paper will consist, in part, of selections or extracts from articles admitted into the REVIEW, but mainly of other original literary, educational, industrial, and miscellaneous matters, including digests of the current events of the day, home and foreign; the proceedings of Congress and the acts of the Government; literary and scientific sketches and essays upon leading and popular topics; biographical sketches of public men; digest of official reports, State and Federal; the state of the markets in the severa arge cities; the progress and prospects of crops supply, demand, prices, etc.; the increase of the ountry as shown by statistics, bringing down those of the National Census always to date

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main at \$5 per annum, but for the couv. aience of the whole work, or who may only solicit inwhich it is devoted, it is in contemplation to make a separate publication of the matter relating to Agriculture, another of that relating to Manufactures; a third .o Internal Improvements; a fourth to Commerce; and a fifth to Education and Letters. These publications will be but departments of the whole work, and may be subscribed for separately at \$1 per annum each. They will appear monthly in handsome periodical style, of from twenty-five to thirty-two pages; constituting an annual octavo volume of 360 pages each, showing at a single view and in a condensed form the whole results, within the year, in the particular department, in our own country and abroad, as the REVIEW itself will show them in all of the departments of indus-

try and enterprise. The Office of DeBow's REVIEW will remain as before at New Orleans, though a branch will be located at Washington, which will be also the main office of the other Journals, and may be addressed at all times in regard to them. The particular address of the editor, whether Washington or New Orleans, will be furnished from time

to time, in the work. J. D. B. DEBOW. WASHINGTON, Nov. 26, 1854.

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